Finance aid to Orissa

2029. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director, World Bank had paid a visit to Orissa and promised financial aid to improve economic growth and control poverty as reported in the New Indian Express, Bhubaneswar, dated the 20th December, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed action-plan discussed and drawn; and

(c) the types of reforms that would be taken up with the assistance and the time by when the assistance would be rendered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) Yes, sir. Country Director of World Bank, India, visited Orissa in December, 2002, Government of Orissa is currently at the 'preparation stage' of structural adjustment programme assistance from the World Bank. Several aspects of the programme such as policy on Fiscal Reforms, Public Enterprise Reforms, Public Expenditure Management and Administrative Reforms are under discussion. The programme would be negotiated when the preparations are complete and the programme has been approved by Government of India and the World Bank.

Relaxation in loan repayment liabilities of State Governments

2030. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar have sought relaxation in loan repayment liabilities and relief in debt liability due to the Centre by modifying loan, grants ratio in Central aid under the Gadgil Formula;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) Government's response thereto?